

After Dr. Mueller's death, Mr. Manno was accepted into the prestigious private singing school directed by Professor Dennis Hall in Bern, Switzerland. As a result of his studies with Professor Hall, Mr. Manno was encouraged to open a voice studio in Milan, which has become a mecca for singers from around the world.

Mr. Manno's singing career embraces a wide repertory—from the baroque to the modern—and he has sung with opera companies around the world. His radio performances within Europe have been admired by the public and critics alike. And, he is currently a permanent member of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Italy.

Not all accomplished musicians make good teachers, but Mr. Manno's teaching career has taken great strides in the past 10 years. He has been recognized for teaching and helping emerging singers on many continents. He also holds seminars and master classes on singing style.

Mr. Manno is regularly invited to teach singing technique at the world-renowned Accademia dei Giovani Cantanti—Academy of Young Singers—under the artistic direction of Leyla Gencer, affiliated with the Teatro alla Scala and the Accademia Internazionale della Musica—International Music Academy—in Milan. The students of Vincenzo Manno can be heard regularly around the world in opera houses, recording studios, concerts halls, and radio and television stations.

Mr. Manno also lends his expertise in pop music, Broadway and operetta. He has guided many Italian pop singers through recording sessions and is regularly contacted by Italian television to help arrange songs for singers and give advice on new compositions.

For all he has accomplished, Mr. Manno has received several awards. He received the "Grand Prix du Disque" for baroque music recorded with the great Swiss conductor Edwin Loehr, and the "Best Recording of the Year" from Gramophone Magazine for his second CD solo recording of tenor music of the 17th century, "Strana Armonia d'Amore" with Roberto Gini.

Mr. President, on the 40th anniversary of his career, it is my pleasure to honor Vincenzo Antonio Manno for his great success and significant contributions to the world of music.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations, a withdrawal and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 1301. A bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 1305. A bill making emergency war appropriations for American troops overseas, without unnecessary pork barrel spending and without mandating surrender or retreat in Iraq, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with amendments:

S. 992. A bill to achieve emission reductions and cost savings through accelerated use of cost-effective lighting technologies in public buildings, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-60).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Debra Ann Livingston, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Richard Sullivan, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Joseph S. Van Bokkelen, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. 1276. A bill to establish a grant program to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic logbook systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska:

S. 1277. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the treatment of payment under the Medicare program for clinical laboratory tests furnished by critical access hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAGEL (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. 1278. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the scope of programs of education for which accelerated payments of educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill may be used, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 1279. A bill to secure America's future economy through reform of the Federal budget process; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 1280. A bill to provide greater accountability in reviewing the national security considerations of free trade agreements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THOMAS:

S. 1281. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain rivers and streams of the headwaters of the Snake River System as additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1282. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the exclusion from gross income of certain wages of a certified master teacher, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 1283. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. MUKULSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1284. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation of income of controlled foreign corporations attributable to imported property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SPENCER, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. 1285. A bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SMITH:

S. 1286. A bill to authorize the Coquille Indian Tribe of the State of Oregon to convey land and interests in land owned by the Tribe; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1287. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an offset against income tax refunds to pay for State judicial debts that are past-due; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1288. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to increase the retirement security of women and small business owners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 1289. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the salary and terms of judges of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, to modify authorities for the recall of retired judges of such court, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 1290. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide additional discretion to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in contracting with State approving agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.